

FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MOTION PICTURE CENSOR BOARD

MARYLAND



FISCAL YEAR
1963

Forty-seventh Annual Report

MARYLAND STATE BOARD

OF

MOTION PICTURE CENSORS

1962-1963

NORMAN C. MASON
Chairman

ROSALYN M. SHECTER
Vice-Chairman

MARY AVARA
Secretary

ELWOOD L. GEBHART
Executive Assistant



Offices

State Office Building
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore 1, Maryland



J. Millard Tawes
Governor of Maryland



NORMAN C. MASON
CHAIRMAN
MRS. LOUIS E. SHECTER
VICE-CHAIRMAN
MRS. MARY AVARA
SECRETARY

STATE OF MARYLAND
MOTION PICTURE CENSOR BOARD
301 WEST PRESTON STREET
BALTIMORE 1, MD.
VERNON 7-9000, EXT. 466-467-468

ELWOOD L. GEBHART
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

August 30, 1963

THE HONORABLE J. MILLARD TAWES
GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

DEAR GOVERNOR:

Pursuant to Section 9, Article 66A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, I present herewith the Forty-seventh Annual Report of the Maryland State Board of Motion Picture Censors for the fiscal year July 1, 1962 through June 30, 1963.

Respectfully submitted, I am

Sincerely yours,

Norman C. Mason
Chairman

WORK OF THE BOARD

During the Fiscal Year, the Board reviewed 665 original films in addition to 648 re-issued (films that have been reprinted by film companies and returned to the distribution market for exhibition in theatres) and processed 5,327 duplicate prints. There were 283 substitute seals issued to replace seals that had been lost or destroyed. Fifty-five (55) films were modified in part, and thirteen (13) films were rejected in toto.

During the fiscal year, the Board issued three (3) revocations of licenses due to violations of various Sections of Article 66 A, the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 Edition as amended) governing Censorship.

During the fiscal year, the Board met on numerous occasions to hear Appeals on thirteen (13) different films, in accordance with Section 19, Article 66 A, Annotated Code of Maryland.

The Board abolished the positions of Motion Picture Reviewer and Film Examiner and Measurer, and substituted two Motion Picture Inspector positions therein. It was felt that these positions could fulfill a dual role in reviewing, examining and measuring of film, thus giving more complexity and utilization of manpower in the Inspection area, to combat the influx of films which are not moral and proper, and which tend to debase and corrupt morals, or incite to crime.

LEGISLATION

The 1963 General Assembly increased the fees for examination of duplicate films from one dollar (\$1.00) to one dollar twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per one-thousand feet (1,000') of film, or fractional part thereof.

COURT OPINIONS

On June 20, 1963, the Baltimore City Court substantiated the Board's action in charging Mr. Ronald Freedman in violation of Section 2, Article 66 A, Annotated Code of Maryland, (1957 as amended) for exhibiting the film "Revenge At Daybreak", without the Seal and License as required by law. Mr. Freedman was fined twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) and costs by Judge Anselm Sodaro in Criminal Court Part 1. This case has been appealed to the Maryland Court of Appeals.

On July 2, 1963 the Baltimore City Court substantiated the Board's action in requesting deletion of scenic matter from the film "Have Figure Will Travel", prior to its exhibition in the State of Maryland. Judge Joseph L. Carter ruled that the calculated purpose and the dominant effect of the film, considered as a whole, is to arouse sexual desires. By virtue of the objectionable scenes in the film "Have Figure Will Travel", its character can accurately be described as a "sexer".

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The year's total receipts were \$66,767.25. This revenue was derived from fees required by law for the Board's examination of films. After defraying expenses of \$66,268.71, the sum of \$498.54 was reverted to the Treasury. The all-time sum reverting to the Treasury amounts to \$578,386.23, since the inception of the Board.

INSPECTIONS

During 2,674 visits made to theatres throughout the fiscal year, the Motion Picture Inspectors examined 5,591 films and found 277 infractions of the law, which were corrected without delay. Inspections of all theatres throughout the State are made periodically, to check compliance with the State Motion Picture Censorship Law, and orders issued by the Board.

Specific Inspections of theatres were made in instances where repeated follow-up showed a flagrant violation of the law in exhibiting films without license and furthermore exhibiting films containing scenic matter which was not therein when licensed by the Board. At this writing, there are six (6) cases pending in the Baltimore City Courts, two (2) cases pending in the Court of Appeals of Maryland, and one (1) case pending in the Worcester County Court for violations of the Censorship Statute.

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF MOTION PICTURE CENSORS

For the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1963

RECEIPTS

(a) Licenses (Original)	\$ 22,160.00
(b) Licenses (Duplicate)	44,324.25
(c) Licenses (Substitute)	283.00
Grand Total.....	\$ 66,767.25

TOTAL ANNUAL RECEIPTS FOR FORTY-SEVEN YEAR PERIOD

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Receipts in Excess of Expenditures</u>
1916—1963	\$2,299,431.75	\$1,721,045.52	\$578,386.23
Budget Appropriation July 1, 1962 through June 30, 1963			\$ 66,639.00

DISBURSEMENTS

Operating expenses:

Salaries	\$ 51,848.32
Technical & Special Fees	5,737.50
Communication	1,373.41
Travel	3,676.87
Motor Vehicle Operation & Maintenance	432.14
Contractural Services	2,323.08
Materials & Supplies	625.64
Fixed Charges	<u>251.75</u>

Total Disbursements \$ 66,268.71

Amount Unexpended Appropriations as of June 30, 1963 \$ 370.29

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF MOTION PICTURE CENSORS
CLASSIFICATION OF FILMS
July 1, 1962---June 30, 1963

1962	Features	Short Subjects	Cartoons	Serials	Adver- tising	Misc.
July	393	55	46	0	4	0
August	407	41	68	0	4	1
September	328	19	98	15	14	0
October	436	58	94	0	9	0
November	420	24	78	0	10	0
December	284	56	32	0	3	0
1963						
January	405	60	250	0	0	0
February	298	56	76	15	1	0
March	382	38	49	0	8	0
April	367	40	84	0	4	0
May	966	37	43	0	1	0
June	354	48	42	15	4	0
TOTAL	5,040	532	960	45	62	1

SUMMARY OF REPORT

Films, Original	1,313			
Films, Duplicate	5,327			
Reels, Original		8,165		
Reels, Duplicate		46,303		
Number of Feet, Original			6,754,788	
Number of Feet, Duplicate			41,482,940	
Films Approved, Original				1,255
Films Approved, Duplicate				5,317
Films Modified in Part, Original				45
Films Modified in Part, Duplicate ..				10
Films Denied				13
TOTALS	6,640	54,468	48,237,728	6,640